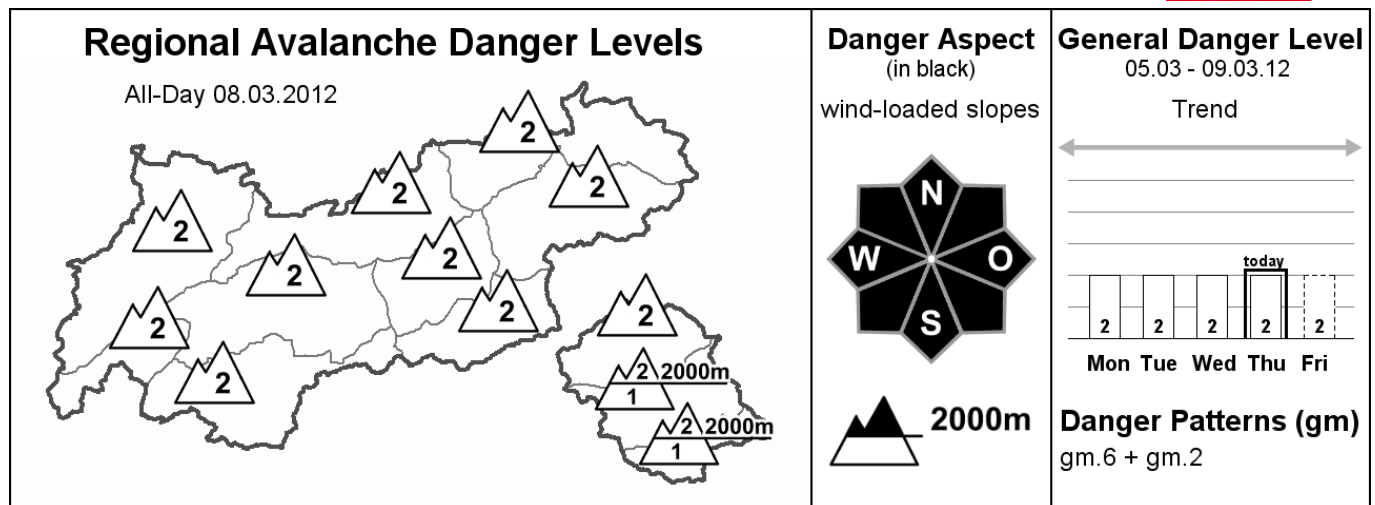


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 08.03.2012, at 07:30



Rising avalanche danger throughout the day due to snowfall

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is generally moderate, but will rise somewhat over the course of the day. The major peril stems from older and fresh snowdrift accumulations. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on wind loaded slopes and ridgeline areas in all aspects. The frequency and spread of danger zones tends to increase with ascending altitude and will escalate over the course of the day. In isolated cases, avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, particularly in steep starting zones, where loosely packed surface sluffs are expected. Below about 2400 m, especially in eastern to southern to western aspects, naturally triggered full depth avalanches continue to require caution.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is thoroughly wet on sunny slopes up to about 2400 m, on shady slopes up to about 1600 m. The surface on sunny slopes is often melt-freeze crusted, on shady slopes it is still loosely packed. New fallen snow and brisk winds will lead to new snowdrift accumulating over the course of the day today, but the masses will remain relatively small.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A powerful cold front will traverse Tyrol today from the northwest. On Friday, final showers from clouds caught against the Alpine barrier, amidst increasing influence of a high pressure system from the west. On Saturday, a high will dominate, which could subsequently weaken under the effects of a northerly air current on Sunday. Mountain weather today: wintery conditions today, including snowfall and cold on the Main Alpine Ridge and northwards therefrom, with 15 to 25 cm of new fallen snow anticipated by Friday morning, most of which will fall between the Arlberg and the Karwendel. In inneralpine regions, more pleasant conditions during the day, but due to the northern barrier effect, the snow showers are expected to continue throughout Thursday night. In the Southern Alps, dry but cloudy. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 8 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 14 degrees. Brisk to strong northwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger is diminishing somewhat.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe